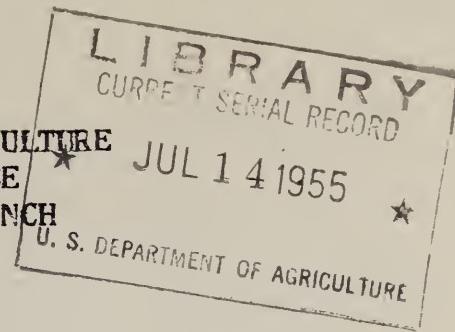


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UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH SERVICE
ANIMAL DISEASE ERADICATION BRANCH
WASHINGTON 25, D. C.



May 24, 1955

ADE BRANCH MEMORANDUM NO. 508.31

To : All Field Activities Stations
From : R. J. Anderson, Chief of Branch
Subject: Information on Fee Testing Veterinarians

I PURPOSE

The purpose of this notice is to request information on fee testing performed by practitioners to determine whether the existing fee schedule is equitable or if adjustments may be in order.

II GENERAL

This office is called on from time to time to explain and justify how it is possible for some of the practitioners to earn a large amount of money during a single pay period.

III REVIEW OF FEES

In the interest of accelerating the brucellosis program with the minimum of delay the Branch tentatively approved the recommended fee schedule covering the hiring of practitioners in connection with the brucellosis program, with instructions for you to review the work continually. You were instructed to review the services rendered by these practitioners in order to determine that the fee schedule was in keeping with the services performed. In order to make such a determination, we believe that it will be necessary for State and Federal supervisors to accompany a representative number of practitioners who are performing services in connection with the brucellosis program, noting factors such as average size and type of herd, distances between herds, whether area or individual herd work, road conditions, facilities for handling the cattle, and other factors that would have an influence on the volume of work done in an hour or in a day.

IV INFORMATION TO BE SUBMITTED

In view of the fact that sufficient time has elapsed for you to review the work performed by the practitioners in the light of the foregoing you are requested to furnish this office with information showing the estimated average hourly earnings of practitioners while engaged in brucellosis activities. (Show method of computation) We would like to know whether helpers are being used in connection with the work and whether hourly earnings include the use of helpers. We will also appreciate having your recommendations as to whether the existing fee schedule is equitable.

V STATION RESPONSIBILITY

It is desired to emphasize again that it is your responsibility as veterinarian in charge of field activities to administer the brucellosis and other Federal programs as efficiently and effectively as possible. Since we are interested in making any adjustments necessary before July 1 we would appreciate receiving the information requested herein at the earliest possible date.

F. J. Anderson